

REMARKS

Claims 6-13 and 15-17 remain pending in the application. Claim 6 has been amended and Claim 14 has been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claims 6-12, 14, 15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carmody. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is requested.

Claim 14 sets forth the requirement that the space between one of the two opposing outer portions of said first and second blade edges is less than the space between the other of said opposing outer portions of said first and second blade edges.

This feature is not shown or suggested in Carmody or any of the other references cited by the Examiner and is not addressed in the Official Action.

The Carmody reference is constructed to provide for cutting small bits of paper from a sheet as is used for example for the semi-circular nicks in the edges of index books. The paper is a flexible material. The purpose and function of the Carmody cutter is to concentrate the force of the cutter on a particular smaller surface so that the cutter can cut through the relatively tough paper material more easily than if the entire cutting edge were brought to bear.

In contrast, the present invention is developed and intended for cutting sheets of brittle material such as glass or ceramic. In this case, the main purpose is to provide for a sequential cut to reduce the chances of shattering the material and to guide the cut. In order to accomplish this, it is most desirable for sequencing of the cutting operation to occur. This is accomplished by means of the structure and function set forth in claims 6 as now amended. Specifically,

“the space between one of the two opposing outer portions of
said first and second blade edges is less than the space
between the other of said opposing outer portions of said
first and second blade edges”.

This requires that only one point of contact occur in connection with the cutting operation in order to produce the sequential cutting action that is desired. This is not shown or suggested in connection with the Carmody reference. On the contrary, as shown in Fig. 6, the Carmody reference provides for a simultaneous cutting from both sides of the cutting edges.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Carmody in view of Berg.
Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Carmody in view of Price.

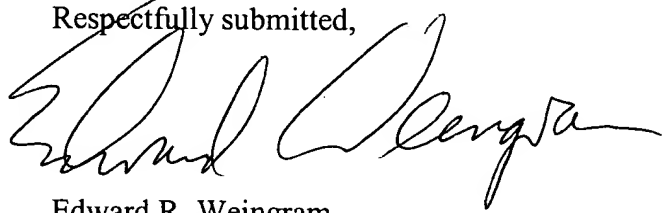
Claims 13 and 16 depend from claim 6. Since claim 6, as amended herein, has been shown to overcome rejection based upon Carmody, claims 13, and 16 are accordingly not obvious in view of the cited combination of references.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing Amendments and the Remarks in support thereof, it is respectfully submitted that this case is in condition for allowance. Favorable action on the merits, including entry of all requested amendments and allowance of all claims is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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